

Food Safety Audit Trainings Set

In anticipation of possible new food safety regulations for fruit and vegetable producers, 4 trainings are set in the area this summer producers to see what to expect in an on-farm Food Safety Audit. Tennessee Department of Agriculture's Ag Enhancement Program is offering additional cost-share (50% level) in the Producer Diversification Program for upgrade of produce packing facilities, food grade materials for a GAP plan, and restrooms/hand washing facilities for workers. To get the 50% cost-share producers must attend a food safety training (these audit meetings will count) or one of the winter food safety trainings already held.

The 4 trainings are:

May 27 – 1 PM – Giles County - Limoland – Steve and Carol Gordon, 8076 Columbia Hwy. Pulaski, TN. 38478 – Strawberries - 1 ½ acres Call Kevin Rose at (931)363-3523

June 17 – 1:30 PM– Lawrence County – John P. Gingrich – close to Plowboy Auction (469 S. Brace Rd. Ethridge, TN.) 30 ac – Onions and Strawberries- Call Wendel Smith at (931)762-5506

July 6 – 1 PM – Richard Lyon – 255 Childress Rd. Fayetteville – 5 ac peppers, 4 acres okra, 20 acres squash – Call David Qualls (931)433-1582

July 13 – 1 PM - Maury County –UT's Middle Tennessee Research Center at Spring Hill – 1000 Main Entrance Drive, Spring Hill - Peaches – Call Richard Groce at (931)375- 5301.

These meetings are open to everyone. Cornell Food Safety Manuals will be available at these meetings as long as they last. Please call the contact person in each county for more information.

More information about future trainings will be updated as soon as that information becomes available.